Discipline Guidelines, inter-alia, provide for penal action against those distributors who indulge in such malpractices. Oil Companies take *necessary action* immediately on receipt of such complaints. Bharat Petroleum Corporation has reported that no such complaint has been received against M/s. Nihal Gas Service by them.

Demand of Natural Gas

8043. SHRI SURESH PACHOURl: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the demand for Natural Gas by the end of this century;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the strategy adopted by Government to enable the oil sector to meet this demand for Natural Gas by the turn of this century?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) An Expert Group constituted by the Government has projected a demand of 145.56 MMSCMD in 1999-2000 A.D.

(c) Steps taken to increase the supply of natural gas include the additional development of existing fields, development of new fields etc. The Government is also examining the feasibility of importing natural gas.

Auctioning of oilfields

8044. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS bo pleased to state: .....

(a) whether Government propose to auction small oilfields discovered by Public Sector Undertakings like Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Oil India Limited; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal, including the number of fields proposed to be auctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Under the first and second offer for development of fields, 31 and 33 small sized fields respectively were offered to Indian and foreign companies for development. These fields would be developed by the companies on their own with no participation by ONGC/OIL, under production contracts with Govt, of India. The companies would have to pay statutory levies like royalty and cess. Payment for the companies share of oil would be at international prices.

Rules for opening up second gas agency

8045. SHRI J. S. RAJU:

-SHRI MISA R. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what norms are followed for getting a second gas agency if the population of a place is more than 20,000; and

(b) whether the gas agency is given at Panchayat level, since the Panchayat Raj is put on a high pedestal for local administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) A second LPG distributorship in a market is set up based on either or both of the following considerations:

1. If the waiting list of the existing distributor is large enough to sustain an independent economically viable second distributorship.

2. If the refill sale of the existing distributor exceeds the prescribed norms of ceiling applicable to the market subject to adequate potential available or sustaining an economically viable second unit.

(b) At present, LPG distributorships are opened in towns having a population of 20,000 and above subject to economic viability and product availability. Keeping in view the expected increase in availability of product and the demand from the smaller towns, it has been decided by the Government to extend LPG marketing to other towns by extending the area of operation to the adjoing villages. Potential of the adjoining villages. will also be taken into consideration for planning the LPG distributorships. Due to product a constraint, it is not possible to supply LPG at Panchayat level at present.

Technologies developed by ONGC for Petroleum Products

8046. G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names and the details of products for which the ONGC ha* developed technologies in its R&D Centres, either itself or in collaboration with other research institutions, for captive consumption or for general use, serialwise;

(b) whether the ONGC has transferred the technical know how of the products referred to in part (a) above to the enterpreneurs/organisations, for commercialisation; if so, what are the details thereof, product-wise; and

(c)what are the names of the products for which technology is yet to be transferred for commercialisation by ONGC and their annual requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) ONGC has not developed any technology for petroleum pro-dusts.

However, the following Chemicals] Drilling Fluids and Cement additives have been developed by the two R&D Institutes viz. Keshava Deva Malaviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration (KDMIPE) & Institute of Drilling Technology (IDT) of ONGC:

KDMIPE:

KDMIPE has developed the following Chemicals in collaboration with the other National Institutes:

(i) Hydroxy Propyl Guargum (H.P. Guargum) developed in collaboration with IIT, New Delhi.

(ii) Welding Technology for fabrication of all welded heavy duty wire Wrapped Screen Liners developed in collaboration with IIT, New Delhi.

(iii) Sintered Bauxite, high strength proppants developed in Laboratory scale in collaboration with RRL, Jorhat.

(iv) Software packages for interpretation and evaluation of well log data in house:

1. Essential Utility Softwares.

2. Graphic Packages (LDDF).

3. Advanced interpretation Softwares (Logproc; Daisy, Swan, ELF Fresan).

4. Software "Toccal" for source rock evaluation.

IDT:

Following Drilling Fluids and Cement additives, used in Oil well drilling and Cementing Operations, have been developed by IDT:

1. Ferrochrome Ligno sulphonate.

2. Chromefree Lignosulphonate.

3. HT Fluidloss Control additive.

4. Organophilic Lignite.